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Editorial Notes

Last Sunday afternoon an enthusiastic meeting was held in Atlanta, in which Dr. Lingle and Dr. Stuart made stirring addresses, and many large subscriptions were enrolled for the future support and operation of the Presbyterian Hospital in Atlanta. We understand that between twenty and forty thousand dollars is now available for the charitable work of the hospital, and we hope to see its sphere of usefulness greatly enlarged.

The provision made for the entertainment of the Assembly, by the committee of which Prof. H. F. Train was the efficient chairman was most complete and ample. Rev. W. Moore Scott the pastor of the First Church, won the hearts of all by his tireless and vigilant attention to all the details incident to securing the greatest efficiency and ease in handling the business and conducting the various exercises from day to day. His lieutenant, Mr. C. S. Wood, not only sustained the pastor in his efficient oversight but had provided a valuable souvenir for each member of the Assembly which is worthy to be treasured and handed down to succeeding generations. It consists of a strip of polished wood taken from a beam of the belfry of St. Peter's Cathedral where Calvin regularly preached in Geneva. This timber was secured after considerable correspondence through the mediation of a personal friend connected with the consulate at Geneva. From this same timber was prepared the beautiful gavel which was presented to the Assembly and which is a work of art.

Lending inspiration to speakers and audience was suspended above the moderator's chair and against the organ, a striking portrait of the great Genevan. The "marvelous eyes" of Calvin which were his most distinguished feature, are strikingly represented, as one may well believe in this portrait which was a gift to the Assembly from Dr. R. F. Campbell of Ashville. To Dr. Campbell the church is indebted not only for this appropriate gift but for marked efficiency in organizing and conducting to a splendid success the Calvin Celebration. His name will continue to be associated with the remembrance of the pleasure and profit of this Quadri-Centennial Celebration of the birth of the greatest of the reformers.

The addresses throughout this celebration, were of the highest order. Each seemed to reach high-water-mark in its department. Each was packed with valuable historical, or philosophical, or theological truth and was expressed in language uniformly well chosen, and strikingly eloquent because of the happy blending of elements, ornate, pungent, reverently humorous, logical, devout. When this series of discourses shall be published it would be found that their contents are of such a pleasing as well as instructive and inspiring nature that the possessor of a copy will have made a splendid addition to his library.

The address by Ex-Governor Glenn of North Carolina was one of the many interesting features of the Assembly's proceedings. A large audience gathered at the hour appointed for the address and listened with rapt attention and interest. The speaker had just returned from a tour of the Southwest where he had presented the claims of Home Missions to numerous churches and in several states. He was profoundly impressed with the urgent importance of the work, and profoundly impressed the Assembly. Endowed with a sympathetic and emotional temperament, a striking personality and a strong voice, he possesses to an unusual degree the gifts of oratory. That which most impressed his audience however was his intense consecration to his work and the profound conviction of its urgent needs.

"The Kentucky case" is now settled beyond repeal. In this fact the entire Church may contentedly acquiesce. The Assembly did it and the Assembly is our highest ecclesiastical tribunal. The elaborate argument and many printed pages connected with this case, bore mainly upon the question of jurisdiction. In formulating its final action the Assembly asserted its right of jurisdiction, but sustained the Synod's plea that the university property had already passed beyond the reach of the Synod and can not be recovered. We have ever believed in the Assembly's right of jurisdiction, inasmuch as that jurisdiction was invoked by the Synod, and exercised by the Assembly in the consolidation of Central University and Center College. The question of property received almost exclusive emphasis in the discussion of the case. We must believe that it should have received minor emphasis. Property is not the main asset in a Christian institution. Its capacity for influencing thousands in the love and service of Christ is a more sacred and more valued asset, and the forfeiture of that responsibility vastly outweighs the forfeiture of endowment. The question is now raised, "What educational institution of the Church is secure against alienation when pledges, enactments, and covenants oft repeated and solemnly proclaimed, are found to be ineffectual?" Henceforth philanthropic churchmen will think seriously and carefully when solicited to bestow their gifts for educational endowments.